# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# CULTURE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2019
ANSWERED ON:28.11.2016
Protection of Ancient Indian Culture
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**Will the Minister of CULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) the details of schemes and measures taken by the Government to protect the Ancient Indian Culture including Tribal culture and Heritage across the country along with the funds allocated to various States in this regard, State-wise including Telangana;

(b) whether the Government has formulated any scheme to promote mythological culture of India and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to bring together the cultural diversity of India and if so, the details thereof; and

(d) whether the Government has any plan for special fund to BPL and middleclass people of India for their traditional cultural development in the country and world-wide and if so, the details thereof?

## Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (I/C) FOR CULTURE AND TOURISM

(DR. MAHESH SHARMA)

(a) To protect, preserve & promote various forms of art and Ancient Indian Culture including Tribal culture and Heritage throughout the country, the Government of India has set up seven Zonal Cultural Centres (ZCCs) with headquarters at Patiala, Nagpur, Udaipur, Allahabad, Kolkata, Dimapur and Thanjavur. These ZCCs are implementing a number of schemes viz. Award to Young Talented Artistes, Guru Shishya Parampara Scheme, Theatre Rejuvenation Scheme, Research & Documentation Scheme, Shilpgram Scheme, Octave and J&K Festivals and National Cultural Exchange Programme (NCEP). Annual grant-in-aid is provided to all these 7 ZCCs by Government of India for carrying out these activities and State/UT-wise funds are not provided.

(b) No, Madam.

(c) Yes, Madam. To bring together the cultural diversity of India, two Rashtriya Sanskriti Mahotsavs (RSMs) were organized in the month of November, 2015 and October, 2016, both at New Delhi by Ministry of Culture through its Zonal Cultural Centres and other autonomous organizations to showcase dance, music, cuisines, art & crafts etc from various parts of the country. It has also been decided to organize these Mahotsavs at Varanasi, Jammu, Tawang and Bengaluru during 2016-17.

(d) No, Madam.